

lergy, in order to include Diphenylhydramine Hydrochloride (Benadryl); Chapter II has been changed from Analgetics and Antipyretics to Analgetics, in line with current thought that use of a drug purely as an antipyretic is unsupported by scientific evidence of its value in relieving the underlying disease. Dihydromorphine Hydrochloride (Dilaudid) and Merperidine Hydrochloride (Demerol) are now included in this chapter, along with Salicylate, Aminopyrine, and Cinchophen. Chapter XV is now Oxytocics instead of Ecboics; the included preparations remain the same, namely those derived from ergot. Posterior Pituitary preparations remain in the chapter on Hormones. The title of Chapter XIX is expanded from Metabolic Agents to Agents Used in Metabolic Disorders. A new chapter (XXIV) is entitled Unclassified Agents, and includes preparations of gold and of iodine.

Another departure from former practice is the inclusion of all procedures for chemical or biological standardization in a separate Section B; Section A lists accepted items, with non-proprietary and proprietary names, dosage forms, and brief descriptions of actions and uses.

New and Nonofficial Remedies is essential for the library of every physician who attempts to prescribe scientifically, and specifically for the case at hand. Its importance as a book of standards is second only to the United States Pharmacopoeia and the National Formulary. However, it is confusing to find so many preparations, distributed by a large number of drug manufacturers, as occur in some parts of the book. For example, there are seven pages devoted to procaine preparations, with 21 preparations and mixtures and 13 drug companies. Twenty-one companies offer 25 preparations of sulfadiazine, and 23 firms prepare penicillin in 58 dosage forms.

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**STANDARD METHODS** of the Division of Laboratories and Research of the New York State Department of Health. Third Edition. By Augustus B. Wadsworth, M.D. Illustrated. Copyright 1947. The Williams & Wilkins Company, Baltimore. Price \$10.00.

This storehouse of information of public health laboratory methods has been an essential reference book in public health laboratories since the publication of the first edition in 1927. In this third edition Dr. Augustus B. Wadsworth culminates a career of 33 years of noteworthy contributions to medicine and public health as director of the laboratories of the New York State Department of Health and brings up to date the procedures and techniques developed during his one-third century as director of that laboratory. The general format of past editions is retained. Through 75 chapters detailed descriptions are given of all techniques and procedures currently employed in the highly developed and efficient New York State laboratory system. The details of procedures used in preparation of glassware and media, of calibration of instruments, etc., are particularly applicable to clinical laboratories.

This edition contains numerous changes and additions. Noteworthy among these is the method for the preparation and use of the new cardiolipin antigen in the serodiagnosis of syphilis, which has been developed in the New York State laboratories since the publication of the second edition. This information is particularly pertinent to clinical and hospital laboratories. A chapter is added on biologic assay, and numerous changes and additions are to be found in other sections. The appendix provides excerpts from the State Law and Sanitary Code relating to laboratories and gives procedures for the submission of specimens. The importance of these latter details is well recognized by all workers in public health laboratories. The chapters on preparation of biologics will probably be of lesser interest to workers in clinical laboratories.

It is replete with bibliographical references that further enhance its value.

This edition should be available for ready reference in every public health laboratory and will be found to be of value to clinical laboratories where bacteriology and serology are done.

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**A HANDBOOK OF COMMONLY USED DRUGS.** By Michel Pijoan, M.D., Director, The Chemical Foundation Laboratory, University of Colorado, and Clark Harvey Yeager, M.D., Chief of the Medical Section, Health and Sanitation Division, Office of Inter-American Affairs, Washington, D. C. Published 1947 by Charles C. Thomas, Publishers, Springfield, Illinois. Price \$3.75.

This small book has been written for those who undertake trips in remote areas or in the field, where access to more complete texts is impossible. As such, it serves a useful purpose. Short discussions of the pharmacologic action of the common drugs and very brief data on dosage are included in the first section of the book.

The second section includes a more detailed but brief discussion of the clinical manifestations, prophylactic and definitive treatment of the tropical diseases. This section is up to date and clearly written and would be very helpful in isolated areas in the tropics. The more complete "Manual of Tropical Diseases" distributed by the National Research Council would, however, be of greater value but would not have the pharmacologic notes of the first section.

An appendix is included that gives the formulae for such miscellaneous preparations as acne ointment, DDT mixtures, etc., as well as metric equivalents, obstetrical tables, etc., that would prove useful.

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**THE 1946 YEAR BOOK OF GENERAL THERAPEUTICS.** Edited by Oscar W. Bethea, Ph.M., M.D., F.A.C.P. The Year Book Publishers, 304 South Dearborn Street, Chicago. Price \$3.75.

The Year Books are well known to the medical profession and the 1946 edition of Therapeutics is similar in style and content to its predecessors. Abstracts of articles dealing with therapeutics are arranged according to subject matter with occasional editorial comment. The articles are mainly from American journals and few foreign articles are reviewed. There is an index which is helpful.

The volume should prove valuable in calling attention to articles one may have missed in his reading and to give, in a general way, the scope of therapeutic thought in 1946.

One criticism that occurs to the reviewer would be the lack of sufficient interpretive opinion on the part of the editors. Some of the articles reflect different points of view on the same subject, and more comment might be helpful. Ideally, of course, the reader should look up the original papers and draw his own conclusions.

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**DOCTOR, DON'T LET ME DIE.** By S. S. Keiner. Published 1947. Boards; 486 pp. Meador Publishing Company, Boston, Massachusetts. 1947. Price \$3.50.

This incredible and unblushingly hysterical approach to the problem of socialized medicine comes with the benediction of Henry Sigerist who states that he actually read it. Since it is 486 pages long and composed of some rather astonishing conversational pieces, this is distinctly surprising. The book purports to be a physician's experience in practice and a fearless exposure of the flaws in medicine. The author must have been subject to large doses of the yellow school of journalism as a young man to acquire such an incredible style. The garbage collector may be kind enough to take your copy away if by any chance one should fall into your hands. However, he will need persuasion.